

San Joaquin Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Strategy Development

**Building a Public-Private Partnership For Water Quality
Monitoring in the San Joaquin River Region**

June 8, 2006

PROJECT GOAL

- To help develop:
 - A system for improved monitoring and assessment of water quality in the San Joaquin River Region
 - A public-private partnership to improve water quality information needed for more effective environmental management

GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE



All or portions of counties within

- Alameda
- Alpine
- Amador
- Calaveras
- Contra Costa
- El Dorado
- Fresno
- Madera
- Mariposa
- Merced
- Sacramento
- San Benito
- San Joaquin
- Stanislaus
- Tuolumne

The San Joaquin River Hydrologic Region
(The California Water Plan Update Bulletin 160-98)

WHY?

- Various federal, state, local and nongovernmental entities have more than 600 monitoring and research programs in the Central Valley at an annual cost approaching \$30 million.
- Data are collected using different methods, at varying locations, and on different time scales, with data maintained at a number of locations and in different formats.
- As a result, data integration and interpretation is limited.
- Regional monitoring programs have helped other regions (e.g., S.F. Bay, So. Cal)
 - Improved coordination and integration of water quality monitoring & assessment increases the efficiency and usefulness of data.

CURRENT PROJECT STATUS

- EPA Request For Proposals (March 2006)
 - Invited proposals (\$230,000)
- Selected San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI)
 - Partners include the Great Valley Center
- Work plan development/negotiations underway
- Project start - Summer 2006
- Coordinate project with related efforts
 - San Joaquin monitoring &
 - SWAMP (SWRCB/CVRWQCB)
 - CMARP (CALFED)
 - San Joaquin Indicators (EPA)

KEY PROJECT PRINCIPLES & ASSUMPTIONS

- Improved comprehensive water quality monitoring will help to protect beneficial uses.
- The Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) will be a focal point of efforts to enhance San Joaquin water quality monitoring.
- Enhancing existing monitoring programs and activities through increased cooperation and collaboration (e.g., shared monitoring objectives, protocols, methodologies, and data, etc.) is essential.
- Existing documents are an important source of abundant information.
- A strategy for San Joaquin water quality monitoring & assessment will be established through a participatory public process of stakeholders.
- An entity for the San Joaquin River Region and/or the Central Valley may be necessary to coordinate monitoring, assessment, and research activities.

PROJECT TASKS/OUTPUTS

- **Participatory development process**
 - Interviews
 - Workshops
 - Stakeholder Advisory/Steering Committee
- **San Joaquin Water Quality Monitoring & Assessment Strategy**
 - Monitoring objectives
 - Design
 - Information & research needs
 - QA/QC & data management
 - Data analysis & assessment
 - Funding & institutional arrangements
- **Assessment Fact Sheets**
- **Website/Clearinghouse**
 - On-line directory

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- A system for improved monitoring and assessment of water quality in the San Joaquin River Region.
- Initiation of a public-private partnership to produce comprehensive water quality information needed for more effective environmental management.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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